

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 25, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 13, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 6, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JANUARY 4, 2010

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 23, 2009

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 13, 2009

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 977

Introduced by Assembly Member Skinner

February 26, 2009

An act to add and repeal Section 4052.8 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to pharmacy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 977, as amended, Skinner. Pharmacists: immunization protocols ~~with physicians.~~

Existing law, the Pharmacy Law, provides for the licensing and regulation of pharmacists by the California State Board of Pharmacy. A violation of the Pharmacy Law is a crime. Existing law, among other things, authorizes a pharmacist to administer immunizations pursuant to a protocol with a prescriber.

This bill, until January 1, 2015, would additionally authorize a pharmacist, ~~in consultation with a physician and surgeon,~~ to initiate and administer influenza immunizations to any person 18 years of age or older pursuant to standardized protocols developed and approved by the Medical Board of California in consultation with public health

officers. The bill would, with respect to the development and approval of those standardized protocols, authorize the Medical Board of California to consult with the board. The bill would require a pharmacist, prior to initiating and administering those immunizations, to complete a specified pharmacy-based immunization delivery training program. The bill would also require a pharmacist initiating and administering those immunizations to complete 3 hours of immunization-related continuing education coursework annually and to be certified in basic life support. The bill would require a pharmacist, at the time of administration of that immunization, to provide the patient with a Vaccine Information Statement and to provide the patient and the patient's physician with documentation of administration of the immunization. The bill would also require a pharmacist administering that immunization to maintain a specified immunization record, provide documentation of administration to the appropriate immunization registry, report any adverse event and ensure proper storage and handling of vaccines. The bill would authorize a pharmacist initiating and administering vaccines under these provisions to initiate and administer epinephrine for severe allergic reactions.

This bill would require the board and the Medical Board of California to complete an evaluation of influenza immunizations initiated and administered under the standardized protocols authorized by the bill, and would require the board to report to the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature by January 1, 2014.

Because this bill would create new requirements under the Pharmacy Law, the violation of which would be a crime, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

1 (a) Vaccines are a safe, effective, and efficient means to prevent
2 sickness and death from infectious diseases as reported by the
3 United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

4 (b) The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
5 report that 220,000,000 persons should get the influenza
6 vaccination annually, however, fewer than 100,000,000 do.

7 (c) According to the California Health Care Foundation,
8 6,600,000 Californians are uninsured and may not have access to
9 immunizations.

10 (d) Pharmacists represent the third largest health professional
11 group in the United States and are on the front line of preventative
12 care.

13 (e) Pharmacists are trained to screen, administer, and properly
14 deal with any adverse events that may arise from vaccines.

15 (f) Primary care physicians play an integral role in preventative
16 health care for Californians. This act will provide an adjunct to
17 that preventative health care.

18 (g) Therefore, in order to achieve greater access to immunization
19 and to protect Californians, it is the intent of the Legislature to
20 provide greater access to lifesaving vaccinations and to ensure that
21 pharmacists may administer influenza vaccinations.

22 SEC. 2. Section 4052.8 is added to the Business and Professions
23 Code, to read:

24 4052.8. (a) A pharmacist may, ~~in consultation with a physician~~
25 ~~and surgeon,~~ initiate and administer influenza immunizations,
26 pursuant to standardized protocols developed and approved by the
27 Medical Board of California in consultation with public health
28 officers, to any person 18 years of age or older. With respect to
29 the development and approval of those standardized protocols, the
30 Medical Board of California may consult with the board. The
31 standardized protocols shall be consistent with protocols developed
32 by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the
33 federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

34 (b) Prior to initiating and administering immunizations, a
35 pharmacist shall complete the American Pharmacists Association's
36 Pharmacy-Based Immunization Delivery Certificate Training
37 Program or another pharmacy-based immunization training
38 certificate program endorsed by the federal Centers for Disease
39 Control and Prevention or the Accreditation Council for
40 Pharmaceutical Education.

1 (c) (1) A pharmacist initiating and administering any
2 immunization pursuant to this section shall also complete three
3 hours of immunization-related continuing education coursework
4 annually.

5 (2) If a pharmacist fails to satisfy this requirement, he or she
6 shall, in addition to any other applicable disciplinary action, retake
7 the training identified in subdivision (b) and also complete the
8 three hours of immunization-related continuing education
9 coursework described in paragraph (1) prior to initiating and
10 administering any further immunizations.

11 (3) The three hours of immunization-related continuing
12 education may be applied toward the continuing education
13 requirement described in Section 4231.

14 (d) A pharmacist initiating and administering any immunization
15 pursuant to this section shall at all times be certified in basic life
16 support.

17 (e) At the time of administration of an immunization, the
18 pharmacist shall do all of the following:

19 (1) Provide the patient or the patient's agent with the appropriate
20 Vaccine Information Statement, produced by the federal Centers
21 for Disease Control and Prevention, for each immunization
22 administered.

23 (2) Provide documentation of administration of the
24 immunization to the patient and the patient's physician or primary
25 care provider, if one can be identified.

26 (3) Provide documentation of administration of the
27 immunization to the appropriate immunization registry.

28 (f) The pharmacist shall maintain an immunization
29 administration record, which shall include, but not be limited to,
30 the name of the vaccine, the expiration date, the date of
31 administration, the manufacturer and lot number, the administration
32 site and route, the Vaccine Information Statement date, and the
33 name and title of the person administering, for 10 years from the
34 date of administration.

35 (g) Any pharmacist initiating and administering vaccines may
36 initiate and administer epinephrine by injection for severe allergic
37 reactions.

38 (h) Any adverse event shall be reported to the Vaccine Adverse
39 Event Reporting System within the United States Department of
40 Health and Human Services.

1 (i) Upon receipt of a vaccine as authorized by this section, a
2 pharmacist is responsible for ensuring that proper vaccine
3 temperatures are maintained during subsequent storage and
4 handling to preserve the potency of the vaccine.

5 (j) The board and the Medical Board of California shall evaluate
6 the effectiveness of the initiation and administration of
7 immunizations pursuant to this section, and the board shall report
8 to the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature by January
9 1, 2014.

10 (k) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2015,
11 and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that
12 is enacted before January 1, 2015, deletes or extends that date.

13 ~~SEC. 4.~~

14 *SEC. 3.* No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
15 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
16 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
17 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
18 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
19 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
20 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
21 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
22 Constitution.